

**CHALLENGES IN FISHERIES SECTOR: A CASE OF NILAVELI AREA IN
KUCHAVELI DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT DIVISION**S.Saboorkhan¹

Correspondence: sahabdeensaboorkhan822@gmail.com

Abstract

Sri Lanka is a small Island in the Indian Ocean consists of multi-faceted Coastal areas. From ancient period fishing is an important livelihood source of income in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka consists of several sites with rich marine resources in coastal districts. Kuchaveli fishing site is an important area, where rich fishing resources are available. However, in the recent past fishing production has fallen due to the unfavorable factors. Accordingly, it is imperative to identify the factors behind the changes in production trend. Nilaveli area which belongs to kuchaveli divisional secretariat division has been selected as the study area of this study. There are 742 families engaged in fisheries livelihood out of 2465. Data were collected from these households using purposive sampling method. The 100 households were selected as samples for this purpose. Collected data were analyzed using Microsoft excel package. Results revealed that lack of interest among younger generation, and the extension of tourism industry are important factors which contribute to the decline in fish production. This study also proposes some suggestions to improve the fishery industry in this area.

Keyword: Fishing, Livelihood, Fish production, Tourism

¹ Department of Geography, Eastern University of Sri Lanka